

**CHEROKEE NATION ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION COMMISSION
MEETING
Cherokee Nation Environmental Programs Office
208 E. Allen Road, Tahlequah, Oklahoma
August 4, 2015 – 9:00 AM**

PRESENT:

Commissioner: Dr. Marty Matlock, Chairman
Commissioner: Ed Fite
Commissioner: J. Blake Fletcher
Commissioner: Jack Spears

APPROVED

SEP 15 2015

Cherokee Nation
Environmental Protection Commission

ABSENT:

Commissioner: Dr. Lynna Carson

STAFF AND GUESTS:

Tom Elkins, CNEP
Jackie Woodward, CNEP
Roger Vann, CNNR
Fan Robinson, CNWM
Nancy John, CNEP
Shaun West, CNEP
Cohl Fowler, CN Gov. Relations.
Pat Gwin, CN Admin Support
Joe Washum, CNB
Chad Harsha, Office of the AG
Scott Craig, Marshal & OEM
Stephanie Johnson, CNEP

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Matlock at 9:25 A.M.
2. Chairman Matlock acknowledged and placed into record the Record of Public Notice and Agenda, distributed and posted as appropriate.
3. Commissioner Spears made a Motion to approve the minutes from the July 7, 2015 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Fite, roll call vote, minutes approved.
4. Public Comments – None
5. Reports
 - A. EPC & Environmental Programs & NEPA projects for Realty, IHS, NAHASDA, Roads-Tom Elkins
 - Reported that CN fiscal year would be ending on September 30th
 - Reported on regulatory meeting held with the Corp of Engineers
 - Regional discussion on Self Governance and EPA will be held on September 15th at the Hard Rock. Chairman Matlock asked Mr. Harsha if the AG had an appetite for approaching EPA as the Trustee of our environmental resources to leverage those funds. Mr. Harsha stated that decision would be made by the Attorney General and he would put the question before him. Chairman Matlock requested that a notice of public meeting be sent out so all Commissioners can attend the meeting on September 15th.

B. Administration Support-Pat Gwin

- Will be conducting tours of the native plant site and seed bank garden throughout the Holiday as well as having Dr. Clint Carroll who will be conducting a focus group activity.
- Negotiations of a programmatic agreement to create a conservation bank with Fish & Wildlife will begin next week
- Tribe's energy portfolio is managed by the tribe's Realty Estate Services department.

C. Cherokee Nation Businesses-Joe Washum

- WRD currently has more than two feet of freeboard, it is slowly descending, the next meeting with the engineers and the City of Claremore is next week.
- Had two small spills of antifreeze at Fort Gibson and Tahlequah. Spills were cleaned and materials were disposed of properly.
- EPA Region 6 will be in Tulsa Thursday for a meeting with CNB and Mr. Washum will be attending.
- The projected cost of Outpost 1 has been received and is being reviewed. EPA is being updated on progress.

D. Emergency Management

- Working with HR on a job description for an Emergency Manager. The Tribal Homeland Security grant was received and the tribe will be purchasing a mobile command post. The Proctor/Christie area had a water problem last month. CN took them a water buffalo and a couple of pallets of water to distribute to community members. Policies are being developed for deployment of the mobile command post.

E. Natural Resources-Roger Vann

- Currently baling hay
- Will be receiving 50 more head of buffalo sometime this Fall
- Processing of buffalo is being discussed. CN can have their own certified meat inspectors in-house.

6. Cherokee Nation Sanitary Landfill-Jamie Clinton

- Still searching for locations to place trash
- Rain has been a hindrance in the past month
- Maintaining status pending directives from CN
- EPC expressed their gratitude to the Landfill staff for their work in trying circumstances
- Mr. Woodward stated that the freeboard on the leachate pond has been out of compliance since May 11th. The options for moving water are a sprayer and two leachate trucks. Nineteen (19) loads were hauled last month but in April of last year one driver hauled 83 loads out of the leachate pond. A driver needs to be dedicated to that task.

7. Attorney General Issues

- Water Plan is still moving forward, nothing specific to report. Chairman Matlock asked if there will be any opportunities for the EPC to attend an Executive Session to address sensitive issues. Mr. Harsha will explore and report back. Chairman Matlock would like to see a public meeting in the next six (6) months outlining an update and path forward.
- Mr. Woodward stated that the freeboard on the leachate pond has been out of compliance since May 11th. The options for moving water are a sprayer and two leachate trucks. Nineteen (19) loads were hauled last month but in April of last year one driver hauled 83 loads out of the leachate pond. A driver needs to be dedicated to that task.

8. Environmental Statute Review – Tom Elkins

- A first deliverable has been received from the contractor. The work was not what was expected. Work has been halted until a remedy can be addressed.

9. New Business - none

10. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events

- Multi-State Water Resources meeting, scenic rivers study, is October 2, 2015, location TBA
- Next EPC meeting to be scheduled in conjunction with the Self-Governance/EPA meeting being held at the Hard Rock on September 15, 2015. The EPC meeting will be held at 3:00 P.M. Monthly reports will be submitted electronically but no reports during the meeting.
- Inauguration on August 14, 2015 at 10:30 A.M.
- CNWM Board Meeting on August 13, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. at the Landfill

11. Commissioner Spears made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Fite, meeting adjourned.